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Subject: Executive Order on Chemical Planning, Preparedness
Attachments: Executive_Order.pdf; Fact_Sheet.pdf

Here is the Executive Order, as well as the White House Fact Sheet, issued last month...

The EPA website on what the RRT is doing is not yet public, but here is the summary of what they are trying to accomplish through the Region 2 RRT...


The Federal government, in partnership with State and local government, has determined a need to address the issues underscored by the West tragedy. A major step toward addressing the issues noted above is the expected creation of an Interagency Working Group, led by, among others, DHS, EPA and OSHA. Among the actions to be undertaken in support of the Interagency working Group is a "pilot" project aimed at leveraging the diversity of experience, capability and perspective among several federal agencies, state agencies and local responders. That pilot, the Effective Chemical Risk Management Project, Federal Region 2 or ECRM2 for short, will help to identify the best ways in which we can improve our national management of chemical risk, and where we should be targeting our resources in order to achieve the best possible result for the American people.

The Working Group describes the ECRM2 project as an effort to enhance coordination regarding chemical facility safety and security. As described in the commission to the Interagency Working Group, the ECRM2 project will develop and deploy best practices, and will innovate and test new methods for interagency collaboration, integrating (regional) federal and state assets where appropriate. The Pilot will inform the development of integrated Standard Operating Procedures and both evaluate and disseminate best practices from across the nation. The pilot will include development of innovative approaches to collecting, storing and using facility information, and will include stakeholder engagement, inspection planning and, if appropriate and feasible, joint inspections of facilities.

ECRM2 is centered on the creation of a multi-agency, multi-government team of experts in the New York, New Jersey region (Federal Region 2). That team of experts will be commissioned to accomplish the goals of the Interagency Working Group over their first year of operation, as well as supporting propagation of their products to the rest of the nation.

For administrative purposes, ECRM2 is established as a sub-committee under the Region 2 Regional Response Team (RRT), which is itself organized under the National Response Team and is authorized and governed by the National Contingency Plan.

The ECRM2 will include representatives from selected RRT member agencies, as well as Ad Hoc members from outside the existing RRT organization.



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